Comment on soil-2021-147

Anonymous Referee #1

Referee comment on "Soil nutrient contents and stoichiometry within aggregate size classes varied with tea plantation age and soil depth in southern Guangxi in China" by Ling Mao et al., SOIL Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-2021-147-RC1, 2022

The manuscript (Ref. No. soil-2021-147) reported an interesting work on varied stoichiometric characteristics resulted from different tea growing age and soil depth. Such topic fits the scope of the journal very well. However, there are some concerns deserve further clarification before publication. The title needs to be polished due to the unclear expression, e.g., Stoichiometric characteristics of … varied with tea-planting age and soil depth at an aggregate scale in the southern Guangxi of China. Numerous syntaxes and/or grammar problems or misuses existed in the current version, which makes great difficulties in understanding the main points. Native English editing service for the draft was strongly recommended. The research needs or gap for the present study should be clearly indicated and justified as well as the work at the aggregate scale that maybe a potentially important innovative aspect.

Some detailed comments for your reference:

P1 Line9, "… a sort of effective way …" should be "… an effective way…".

P1 Line10, "this study was aim to…" changes to "the aim of this study was to…", or "this study was aimed to…", better?

P1 Line 15-16, in various sized aggregates should be in different sizes of aggregates. In different aged tea plantations? Confusing expression. Among different ages of tea gardens or cultivations?

P2 Line 27, "an appropriate increase" could be more quantitative or specific?

P2 Line 28, During the process of tea planting, tea growth, better?

P2 Line 31, tea plant should be tea plants or trees. Same as the remaining context.